

Message Text

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21-54

ACTION EA-14

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6766

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 14814

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TH, SW

SUBJECT: THAI PRINCESS TO ATTEND SWEDISH FUNERAL

1. HRH PRINCESS SIRINDHORN, 18-YEAR OLD DAUGHTER OF KING BHUMIPOL ADUPYADET, WILL ATTEND THE FUNERAL SERVICES IN STOCKHOLM OF THE LATE KING GUSTAF VI. PRINCESS SIRINDHORN, THE KING'S THIRD CHILD, IS PRESENTLY A FRESHMAN AT CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY STUDYING FINE ARTS.

2. THIS VISIT IS THE PRINCESS' FIRST OFFICIAL TRIP ABROAD. SHE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY PRINCE PHANUPHUN YUKOL, POLICE COLONEL VASIT DEJKUNCHORN, AND MOM RATCHAWONG (TITLE) THONGNOI THONGYAI. THE ROYAL ASSEMBLAGE WILL DEPART BANGKOK ON AN SAS FLIGHT SEPTEMBER 23 AND RETURN SEPTEMBER 28.

3. COMMENT: THE THAI ROYAL FAMILY IS HIGHLY-RESPECTED THROUGHOUT THAILAND. THOUGH THE KING REIGNS BUT DOES NOT RULE, HE USES HIS POSITION TO SUBTLY IMPROVE THE TONE OF GOVERNMENT. PRINCESS SIRINDHORN, HERSELF, HAS MADE A FEW UNPRECEDENTED COMMENTS ABOUT THAI POLITICS THAT PROBABLY REFLECTED THE KING'S THINKING. THONGNOI IS A PARTICULARLY WELL-INFORMED FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL DETAILED TO THE ROYAL HOUSEHOLD AS DEPUTY PRINCIPAL PRIVATE SECRETARY OF THE KING.
MASTERS

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